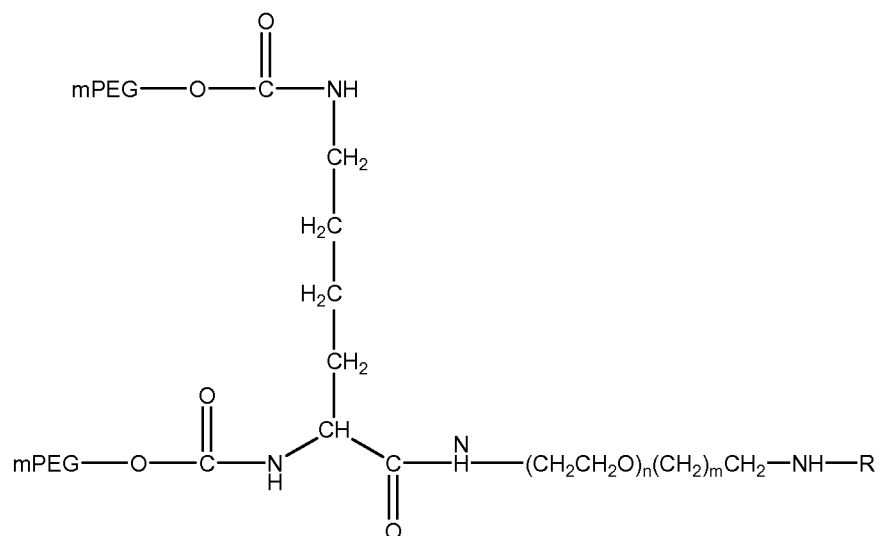


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) A PEG conjugate having the structure of the formula



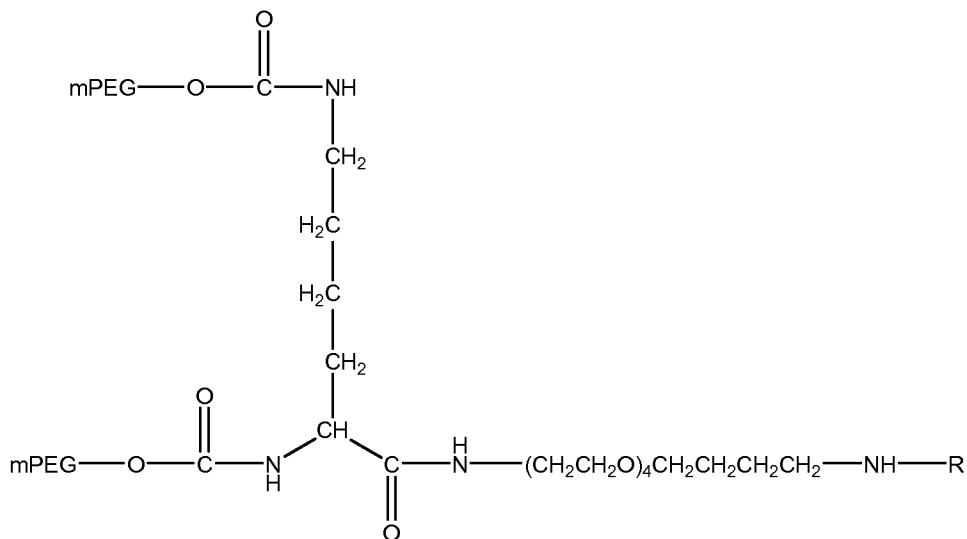
wherein

n is an integer between 1 and 10;

m is an integer between 1 and 10;

-NH-R is human growth hormone or methionyl human growth hormone, **[and]** the human growth hormone or methionyl human growth hormone is monopegylated **[at the N-terminus thereof], and the -NH- moiety of -NH-R is the amine terminal α-amino group of human growth hormone or methionyl human growth hormone.**

2. (Currently amended) The PEG conjugate of claim 1 having the structure



wherein **-NH-R** is human growth hormone or methionyl human growth hormone, **and the -NH- moiety of -NH-R is the amine terminal α -amino group of human growth hormone or methionyl human growth hormone.**

3. (currently amended) The conjugate of claim 2 wherein said human growth hormone comprises **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

4. (currently amended) The conjugate of claim 1 wherein said human growth hormone consists of **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

5. (currently amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein the human growth hormone comprises **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, the composition comprises a mixture of pegylated human growth hormone species, and greater than 90% of said polyethylene glycol is conjugated to **[an] the** amino-terminal phenylalanine of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

6. (currently amended) The composition of claim 9 wherein the human growth hormone comprises **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, the composition comprises a mixture of pegylated human growth hormone species, and greater than 95% of said polyethylene glycol is conjugated to **[an] the** amino-terminal phenylalanine of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

7. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 5 wherein each mPEG has a molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

8. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 6 wherein each mPEG has a molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

9. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the human growth hormone-PEG conjugate of claim 1 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

10-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously presented) A composition comprising the human growth hormone-PEG conjugate of claim 2 and at least one pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16-20. (Cancelled)

21. (currently amended) The composition of claim 15 wherein the human growth hormone comprises **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, the composition comprises a mixture of pegylated human growth hormone species, and greater than 90% of said polyethylene glycol is conjugated to **[an] the** amino-terminal phenylalanine of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

22. (currently amended) The composition of claim 15 wherein the human growth hormone comprises **[an] the** amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, the composition comprises a mixture of pegylated human growth hormone species, and greater than 95% of said polyethylene glycol is conjugated to **[an] the** amino-terminal phenylalanine of the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1.

23. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 21 wherein each mPEG has a molecular weight of about 20 kDa.

24. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 22 wherein each mPEG has a molecular weight of about 20 kDa.